



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5789

February Session, 2006

* _____ HB05789PH _____ 032006 _____ *

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC
UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD BANK AND UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD
DONATIONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) On or before January 1, 2007,
2 the Department of Public Health, in collaboration with The University
3 of Connecticut Health Center, shall establish, operate and maintain a
4 public umbilical cord blood bank for the purpose of collecting and
5 storing umbilical cord blood and placental tissue donated by maternity
6 patients at hospitals licensed in this state.

7 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) On or before January 1, 2007,
8 the Department of Public Health shall establish a program to educate
9 maternity patients with respect to the subject of umbilical cord blood
10 banking. Such program shall provide maternity patients with sufficient
11 information to make an informed decision on whether or not to
12 participate in a private or public umbilical cord blood banking
13 program and shall include, but not be limited to, (1) an explanation of
14 the difference between public and private umbilical cord blood
15 banking, (2) the medical process involved in umbilical cord blood
16 banking, (3) the current and potential future medical uses of stored
17 umbilical cord blood, (4) the benefits and risks involved in banking
18 umbilical cord blood, and (5) the availability and cost of storing
19 umbilical cord blood and placental tissue in public and private

20 umbilical cord blood banks.

21 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2007*) (a) Each physician licensed
 22 to practice medicine under chapter 370 of the general statutes and each
 23 hospital licensed under chapter 368v of the general statutes shall
 24 inform each pregnant patient under the physician's or hospital's care,
 25 not later than thirty days from the commencement of the patient's
 26 third trimester of pregnancy, of the opportunity to donate to the public
 27 umbilical cord blood bank, established under section 1 of this act,
 28 blood and tissue extracted from the umbilical cord and placenta,
 29 following delivery of a newborn child, at no cost to the patient.

30 (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to:

31 (1) Obligate a hospital to collect umbilical cord blood or placental
 32 tissue if, in the professional judgment of a physician licensed to
 33 practice medicine in this state, the collection would threaten the health
 34 of the mother or child;

35 (2) Prohibit a maternity patient from donating or storing blood
 36 extracted from the umbilical cord or placenta of the patient's newborn
 37 child to a private umbilical cord blood and placental tissue bank; or

38 (3) Impose a requirement upon attending medical personnel who
 39 object to umbilical cord blood or placental tissue donation as being in
 40 conflict with their religious tenets and practice.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2007</i>	New section

PH Joint Favorable Subst.